

January 1, 2026

Dear Commissioners, Neighbors and Developers,

Please keep the pedestrian path, an asset to our neighborhood.

My apartment overlooks the path. People use it all day long: Children going to and from school--Neighbors walking dogs--Exercise walking and jogging--Family walks--Group excursions—Hikers—Bus riders—Neighbors going to work

--It is a shortcut between Bluff and Stevens streets formed over 60 years by the natural movements of residents in their own neighborhood

--It is a wide open space of nature with bushes, trees and wildlife.

--Madison is known for and treasures its parks and nature areas. This is one.

--It connects 2 parks, Hoyt and Quarry Hill and is a natural continuation of the 2 parks, running right up to entrances to both parks.

--There are shortcut paths in every neighborhood. Two close-by go between homes from DuRose Terrace to Blackhawk Ave., another on Lucia Crest goes between homes down to Lucia Crest Park.

--The wire going over the path has been there for years with no incidents. It can be squared-off at the top, like wires on N. Carroll Street in back of Bethel Church, downtown.

The proposed public sidewalk will not replace the pedestrian path.

--Residents of homes in the neighborhood have told me that it feels too private to walk there, like walking in people's back yards.

--Dogs will relieve themselves by patios and balconies.

-- It will sound like a dog kennel. Barking of walked dogs and movements of people as they go down the sidewalk, will cause dogs in apartments to bark.

--Last fall I saw high schoolers play hide 'n seek in the yard. One person ran onto a patio and hid there behind trees and others were yelling. Amazon packages have gone missing. This and more will happen with a public sidewalk.

--The outdoor design of existing apartments is not conducive to public access and meandering.

Commissioners, Please vote to keep the neighborhood pedestrian path. It provides necessary convenience and natural beauty for our neighborhood.

Sincerely,

Mary Sheean

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